



Ngāruawāhia remedial and safety works



Work continues day and night on the Ngāruawāhia section of the Waikato Expressway to get it to 110km/h standard.

Big push for Christmas finish

Contractors are working around the clock and the next big push will require full closures and detours of this section of State Highway 1 between Taupiri and Lake Road from Sunday nights to Friday afternoons for the next 2 weeks.

Closures and detours have been in place at night Sundays to Thursdays this month to ensure the remedial work and safety improvements are complete by mid-December.

From Sunday this week there will be full closures day and night. The timetable is:

Closes: Midnight Sunday 24 November.

Opens: Midday Friday 29 November.

Closes: Midnight Sunday 1 December.

Opens: Midday Friday 6 December.

After these 2 weeks of full closures any remaining work will be done with traffic sharing lanes and the occasional night closure if needed.

Additional contractors have been brought in so when the closures are in place work has been happening on the northbound and southbound lanes at the same time, says Jo Wilton, Senior Manager Project Services at NZ Transport Agency Waka Kotahi (NZTA).

"We're determined to get this finished and open to 4 lanes of traffic by mid-December, ahead of the busy Christmas period, which is why we're throwing more resources at this.

"This project to repair and upgrade this section of the Waikato

Expressway has caused ongoing disruption for some time and we're asking for a bit more patience from road users while we ramp up activity on site to finish the job," Ms Wilton says.

"As always with road works there may be disruption from the weather or other unforeseen circumstances, but by setting aside this amount of time for full closures, we're confident that we've got enough time in reserve to ensure the job is done by our 15 December deadline," Ms Wilton says.

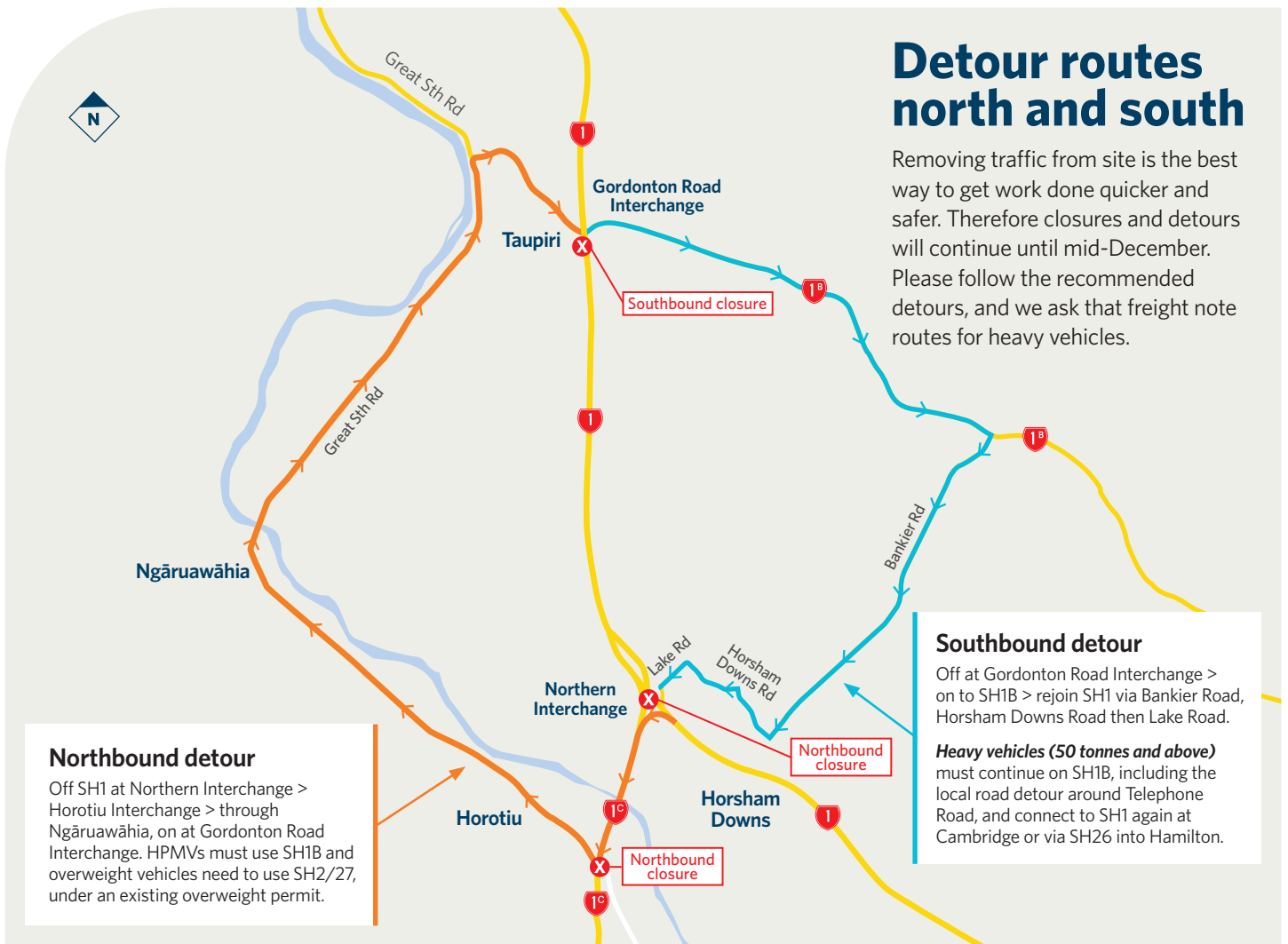
The schedule for closures is listed on the Waikato Expressway surface works project page www.nzta.govt.nz/projects/waikato-expressway/expressway-surface-works and drivers are encouraged to check this page for the latest information on closures and detours.

Outside the closure, 2 other detours remain in place until December 15:

- The southbound on-ramp at Taupiri/Gordonton Road is closed until mid-December so people need to use the SH1B detour.
- Northbound SH1C traffic is required to exit at Lake Road, head south on SH1 to turn at Resolution Interchange and proceed north.

Detour routes north and south

Removing traffic from site is the best way to get work done quicker and safer. Therefore closures and detours will continue until mid-December. Please follow the recommended detours, and we ask that freight note routes for heavy vehicles.



An apology from us

We have closed the southbound on-ramp at the Gordonton Road interchange until mid-December.

Road users were given no notice of this and we apologise for the inconvenience this caused.

The ramp had to close as all traffic has moved to the northbound lanes, but the ramp was closed several days before for immediate work.

While the ramp is closed people need to use the detour route to go south.

Work behind barriers

While the SH1 remedial work and safety improvements are on track for completion by mid-December – when we will have all lanes open to traffic – there is still further work to do.

The remaining remedial works, such as planting to improve the water quality of road run-off, can be done behind the new flexible side safety barriers without traffic management.

Works on the SH1C portion of the Ngāruawāhia section – on each side of the river bridge – will be done next year.

A big thank you from us. On behalf of NZTA and our contractors, thank you to road users and nearby residents for your patience and understanding while we get this important work completed.



Got a question?

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